

REMARKS

The examiner objected to the form of the reference to claimed priority. That was rewritten to overcome the objection.

The specifications were objected to because of use of trade names and "18" was used instead of "17" on page 3, line 2. The uses of trade names were amended and "18" was replaced with "17" on page 3, line 2. Reference to #47 in the specifications as a "wing nut" was objected to. "Wing" was deleted from "wing nut" in line 3 of the third paragraph in the specifications.

The drawings were objected to on the basis that the second set of drawings, which were intended to replace the informal drawings originally submitted, contained new material. While the new material was insubstantial, the drawings were amended to overcome these objections. Fig. 1 was redrawn to delete the showing of the bottom of the housing as a separate element, the interface between inlet and outlet ports was modified, the flared nature of the opening in the lid was removed. The interface between the screen and outlet was redrawn according to the original figure 1. The drawings were also objected to because they did not include reference to some numbers. Numbers "1", "15", "48" and "42" were added to the figures. In figure 2 the bolt shown was changed to show only the head as shown in the original informal drawings and the number "42" was added to indicate the end 42 which is opposite to end 41 in the cover 22. Fig. 4 was amended to change "48" to "43" and "13" to "16". The changes correct errors in Fig. 4. Element 47 was redrawn to reflect a winged character and it is labeled as "47" as in the original drawing.

The claims were rewritten to overcome the objections of indefiniteness. Claims 1 through 6 were withdrawn and claims 3 through 6 were replaced with claims 7 through 10 to include the limitations of claims 1 and 2 and overcome the objections of indefiniteness. They were amended along the lines suggested by the examiner.

In view of the above remarks, reconsideration and allowance of the new claims are respectfully requested.

Dated: 11 October 2003

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ronald P. Brockman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ronald P. Brockman, Reg. No. 33, 572

We claim:

1. In a cleaning system for cleaning fluid conducting tubing, which uses balls made up of spongy material, a ball collector comprising:

a cylindrical metallic housing having a sealed bottom, an access port with a hinged cover, the hinged cover having a transparent element, and inlet and outlet ports, the outlet port being covered with a strainer screen, the strainer screen being capable of allowing fluid to pass while retaining the balls made up of spongy material,

an O-ring capable of forming a seal between the cylindrical housing and hinged cover,

a means to attach the hinged cover to the housing, and

a means to lock the hinged cover in a closed position.

2. The ball collector of claim 1 wherein a silicon glue material forms a seal among the hinged cover, the O-ring and cylindrical housing.

3. The ball collector of claim 1 wherein the hinged cover comprises metallic frame, a pyrex glass member encased in a metallic sleeve and has a means to hold the pyrex glass member and sleeve in place within the cover.

4. The ball collector of claim 3 wherein the means to attach and means to lock the hinged cover are seated in recesses in the housing.

5. The ball collector of claim 3 wherein the O-ring rests on a by a countersunk ledge the access port into the cylindrical housing, the ledge being capable of receiving the pyrex glass member.

6. The ball collector of claim 5 wherein the wall of the housing is one-quarter to one-half inch thick.